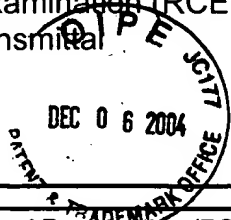


Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Application Number	09/582,262
Filing Date	October 10, 2000
First Named Inventor	John T. WASSOM, Jr. et al.
Group Art Unit	2174
Examiner Name	Nhon D. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	06975-029004

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s)

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendment filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 09 2004**

**Technology Center 2100**

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment in Reply to Action of April 7, 2004

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fee** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1050

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☒ Other Any deficiencies

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 1292 enclosed (**\$790 RCE; \$430 extension of time; \$72 excess claims fee**)

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Joseph F. Key	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,827
Signature		Date	December 6, 2004

12/07/2004 SSITHIB1 00000087 09582262

01 FC:1801  
02 FC:1202

790.00 OP  
72.00 OP